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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 542

By Womack

A RESOLUTION to commend Mr. Steve Bingham for his
honorable and astute service to the people of
Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated their professional careers and personal excellence to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Steve Bingham is one such person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, a native of Rutherford County and a lifelong resident of Murfreesboro, Mr. Bingham is a highly respected member of his community; he was born the son of Mrs. Pearl Bingham Lambert and Retired Sgt. J.T.M. Bingham, where he grew up as one of eight children; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of the Murfreesboro and Rutherford County school systems, Mr. Bingham holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Middle Tennessee State University in Criminal Justice Administration and Psychology and has completed 31 hours in postgraduate studies at both Middle Tennessee State University and Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary tenure as an educator in the Special Education Department at Riverdale High School, Mr. Bingham has diligently worked for the past ten years in the growth and development of our youth; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bingham has touched the lives of many children in the Rutherford County School System as he is the sponsor of the Riverdale Halftimers, the former sponsor of the Riverdale Gospel Ensemble, the co-sponsor of Black History Month, and the coordinator of the Junior/Senior Fashion Show; he also serves on the Student Athlete Profile Committee and the School Safety Committee; and

WHEREAS, Steve is also a part-time employee of the City of Murfreesboro in the Parks and Recreation Department as Murfreesboro's Drug Awareness Coordinator, where he has worked to provide positive activities that promote healthy lifestyles and deter drug use and abuse; and

WHEREAS, Steve Bingham has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, Steve's community involvement includes giving of his time and numerous talents as a former sponsor of the Junior Halftimers, as Director of the Murfreesboro STARS (Serving Teens and Rewarding Service) Program, as past Director of the Rutherford Youth Action League's EARN (Economic Advancement for Responsible Neighbors) Program; he also performs volunteer service with the Rutherford County Food Bank, the American Red Cross, the Patterson Community Center's Reading Literacy Program, the NAACP, the Kappa League Guide Right Program, tutors grades K-12, and has participated in the "March Against Crime and Violence"; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bingham's outstanding success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Steve also demonstrates his strong faith in the Lord as an active member of the Allen Chapel AME Church, where he serves as Trustee, Usher, Chairman of the College

Day Program, Co-chairman of the Pastor's Appreciation Committee, and participates in Vacation Bible School; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bingham is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, he has received numerous honors, including being selected one of the 12 Men of Distinction in Murfreesboro, having received the Riverdale High School Outstanding Service Award, the Patterson Community Center Employee of the Month by the Parks and Recreation Department, and being recognized for his conscientious and dedicated community service by the Modern Woodmen of America, and by Middle Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Mr. Bingham is most proud of the loving relationship he shares with his son, Todd Johnson; and

WHEREAS, on January 29, 2000, the Murfreesboro Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. will be holding its Second Annual Community Service Awards Banquet, at which time they will honor Mr. Bingham in recognition for his contributions to the well-being of the African American communities in Rutherford County; the Honorable Thelma Harper will be the featured keynote speaker; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bingham is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby commend Mr. Steve Bingham for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee and salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.